

*Via Email*

August 20, 2009

Washington Secretary of State  
Legislative Building  
PO Box 40220  
Olympia, WA 98504

**Re: Public Records Request**

Dear Mr. Hamlin:

On August 17, 2009 the Secretary of State (OSOS) began using an additional database as part of the signature certification process for Referendum 71. The OSOS had discovered that the database against which signatures were being checked was current only through June 19, 2009. Thus, petition signers who had registered after June 19 may have been categorized as 'not found' during checks by the initial checkers and then the master checkers. To remedy this, OSOS added the additional step of having all signatures that had been, and throughout the remainder of the process are determined to be, 'not found', re-checked for a third time using this 'live' database that includes anyone who has registered to the current point in time.

In initiating this new step in the process, the OSOS disseminated procedures for the staff, including this directive: "The registration date of a voter registration record is not a basis for rejecting a petition signature." In light of this, some number of previously rejected signatures have now been accepted, and will continue to be accepted, where the date of voter registration did not fall in the time period from June 19 – July 25. As you know, RCW 29A.72.130 requires that a person signing a referendum petition must be a legally registered voter in the State of Washington and attest to that fact when he or she signs a petition.

Pursuant to Washington Public Disclosure Act, RCW 42.56, Washington Families Standing Together ("WAFST") requests copies of or access to the following documents or categories of documents related to Referendum 71:

(1) A list identifying by volume number, petition number, line number and date of registration, those signatures initially rejected as 'not found' and subsequently confirmed as 'not found' by a master checker, for which the first two determinations rejecting the signature were overturned upon a re-review of the signature by checkers using the 'live' voter registration database, where the date of voter registration for each was prior to June 19, 2009.

(2) A list identifying by volume number, petition number, line number and date of registration, those signatures initially rejected as 'not found' and subsequently confirmed as 'not found' by a master checker, for which the first two determinations rejecting the signature were overturned upon a re-review of the signature by checkers using the 'live' voter registration database, where the date of voter registration for each was on or after July 25, 2009.

Because this re-check procedure will continue until all signatures rejected as not found by an initial checker and then by a master checker are checked against the live database, we will accept a summary report with the above information as of the end of the first week (through 8-21-09) and then a complete list at the end of the process.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions. Thank you for your immediate attention and cooperation.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Anne Levinson', with a stylized, flowing script.

Anne Levinson

Chair, Washington Families Standing Together

(206) 682-9552, ext. 112

CC: Brenda Galarza (Public Records Officer)  
Nick Handy (Director of Elections)